

Claim Amendments

Please cancel claims 1-5 and add claims 6-11 as follows:

1-5. (canceled)

6. (new) A lithium battery comprising:

a positive electrode comprising sulfur and a metal complex of an organic sulfur compound having a thiol group in the compound molecule;

a negative electrode comprising a lithium-containing composite nitride represented by the general formula $\text{Li}_{3-x}\text{M}_x\text{N}$, wherein M is at least one transition element selected from the group consisting of Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni and Cu, and $0.1 \leq x \leq 0.8$; and
a lithium ion conductive nonaqueous electrolyte.

7. (new) The lithium battery in accordance with claim 6, wherein the positive electrode further comprises at least one of a conductive polymer and an organic sulfur compound having a thiol group in the compound molecule.

8. (new) A lithium battery comprising:

a positive electrode comprising lithium-containing sulfur represented by the general formula $(\text{Li}_x\text{S})_n$, wherein $0 < x \leq 2$ and n is a natural number, and a metal complex of an organic sulfur compound having a thiolate group in the compound molecule;

a negative electrode comprising at least one of an alloy and a metal oxide, and a lithium-containing composite nitride represented by the general formula $\text{Li}_{3-y}\text{M}_y\text{N}$, wherein M is at least one transition element selected from the group consisting of Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni and Cu, and $0.1 \leq y \leq 0.8$; and

a lithium ion conductive nonaqueous electrolyte.

9. (new) The lithium battery in accordance with claim 8, wherein the positive electrode further comprises at least one of a conductive polymer and an organic sulfur compound having a thiolate group in the compound molecule.

10. (new) The lithium battery in accordance with claim 8, wherein said alloy is a solid solution or an intermetallic compound formed from at least one of Sn and Si and at least one selected from the group consisting of Group 2 elements, transition elements, Group 12 elements, Group 13 elements, and Group 14 elements in the periodic table.

11. (new) The lithium battery in accordance with claim 8, wherein said metal oxide is at least one selected from the group consisting of SiO, SnO, SnO₂, SrSnO₃ and Li₂SnO₃.

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